

Amendments to the claims

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1 (Currently amended): A system for authenticating a subject residing in a subject domain on a network to a server application residing in a server domain on the network, wherein an authentication mechanism residing in an authentication domain on the network affects the service provided by the server application, the system comprising:

A1 a client for communicating with other components of the system and for authenticating the subject to other components of the system by providing a client ~~name~~ assertion credentials on behalf of the subject, wherein said client also resides in the subject domain; and

a protocol proxy for communicating between said client and the authentication mechanism and for authenticating said client based on said client ~~name assertion~~ credentials, for obtaining from the authentication mechanism temporary credentials for said client to access the server application, and for creating from said temporary credentials an authentication name assertion allowing said client to access the server application.

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